



## Is Evolution This Year's Breakthrough?

Editorial by Warren Krug

(January-February, 2006)

Science magazine has nominated evolution as its breakthrough of the year in an article titled "Evolution in Action."

Three discoveries during 2005 are offered as evidence that evolution is making strides in proving it is more than a theory. But "the big breakthrough, of course, was the one Charles Darwin made a century and a half ago," the authors say.

The first of the modern breakthroughs involves the publication in September of the genome of the chimpanzee, "our closest relative." The authors at first claim only a 1% difference (in the nucleotide bases that can be aligned) between the two species, but then they admit "a surprisingly large chunk of noncoding material is either inserted or deleted in the chimp" bringing the total DNA difference to 4%.

One doesn't have to be told that there is a great deal of similarity in physical appearance between apes and humans, but the differences are great: for example speech, creativity, walking without slouching, and for us Christians, the presence of a soul, all in mankind and absent in simians.

The second breakthrough involves observed changes in the populations of European blackcap birds, European corn borer caterpillars, and other living creatures that appear to be leading to new species evolving.

The third breakthrough focuses on mutations in genetic data that have led to health problems such as AIDS and avian influenza. Researchers are looking for genes to combat these ailments.

Still, whether one is talking about changes in populations of wildlife or mutations in viruses, it is important to note that no new kinds of creatures evolved.

Evolutionists continue to try to fool the public, and maybe themselves, by pointing to some of the countless examples of "variation within a kind" (sometimes called "micro-evolution") as evidence for amoeba-to-man evolution.

There are a plethora of varieties of dogs, for instance, but not a single example of a half-dog, half-something else creature, either in the fossil record or in the modern world.

Christians need to read these claims of proofs of evolution critically. *LSI*

—Warren Krug, editor